

YOUR HISTORY

By J.A. ROGERS

Dates Back Beyond the Cotton Fields in the South
Back Thousands of Years Before Christ!ILLUSTRATIONS BY
A. SAMUEL MILAI

BESSIE COLEMAN

BORN IN 1898 IN TEXAS, IS SAID TO BE THE FIRST NEGRO AVIATOR TO GET A LICENSE IN AMERICA AND ONE OF THE FIRST OF HER SEX TO TAKE TO THE AIR. SERVED AS A NURSE IN FRANCE IN WORLD WAR I. ALSO HELD FRENCH AND GERMAN AVIATION LICENSES. GAVE EXHIBITION FLIGHTS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. SHE WAS KILLED IN AN AIRPLANE CRASH.



Years of Frustration End as Negro Pilot Lands Commercial Flying Job

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By EVELYN CUNNINGHAM

NEW YORK—An airplane pilot who is described by the Urban League as "one of the most highly qualified" in their lengthy files is finally flying a commercial plane, ending years of frustration and rejection by practically every major airline in the country.

Vernon C. Wallace, 32, with approximately 3,000 flight hours to his credit, was hired by General Airways about three weeks ago, after submitting his aeronautical resume and receiving a phone call for an interview.

lores Foster of Kansas City; Mrs. Aaron White Jr. of Los Angeles; the Rev. Wendell H. Wallace of Portland, Ore.; Ivory Wallace Jr. of New York, and Bertram Wallace of New York.

Seaboard and Western Airlines hired Gus Martin as pilot two years ago.

NOT YET IN uniform, Wallace has already flown as co-pilot to Buenos Aires, Ireland and was due to fly to Brussels this week. For the past two years Wallace had flown with the strategic air command. Previously, he served with the UI Air Force troop carrier from 1951 to 1952, and the U. S. Military Air Transport Service, 1953-1956.

Radioman first class in the U. S. Navy from 1943 to 1946, Wallace was graduated from the U. S. Air Force advanced pilots course as aircraft commander in 1956 and received a navigator's rating in the U. S. Air Force the same year.

Wallace's 3,000 flight hours include approximately 200 hours in multi-jet planes, he has completed 730 hours night time, 456 actual instrument time and has made 60 trans-ocean crossings. His flight areas have included Germany, Spain, North Africa, England, Scotland, France, Iceland, Greenland, the Azores, Newfoundland, Japan, Korea, Guam, Labrador and Continental USA.

A GRADUATE of Wendell Phillips and Lincoln High in Kansas City, Mo., Wallace has a degree in business administration from New York City. At the time of graduation, he was also an ROTC cadet lieutenant colonel.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Huff Sr. of Kansas City, Wallace is the youngest of six children. The others are Mrs. Do-